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NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (GC3)

DRAFT Phase 1 Near-Term Actions Report of the GC3 Public Review Period: December 23, 2020 to January 6, 2021

On September 3, 2019, Governor Ned Lamont issued <u>Executive Order No. 3</u> (E.O. 3) establishing the Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) and strengthening Connecticut's commitment to transition to a decarbonized economy and enhance resiliency of the state's economic, cultural, and natural resources to the impacts of climate change.

The Council established seven working groups in the areas of Progress on Mitigation Strategies, Working and Natural Lands, Public Health and Safety Adaptation, Infrastructure and Land Use Adaptation, Financing and Funding Adaptation and Resilience, Science and Technology, and Equity and Environmental Justice to assist the Council with carrying out the order. The Working Groups finalized reports with recommendations for the GC3's consideration for adoption and the reports were published on the GC3 website.

The GC3 was split into two Subcommittees, one on Mitigation and the other on Adaptation & Resilience to review the Working Group reports covering those topics. Each Subcommittee met to review the Working Group recommendations and determined which recommendations to put forward to the full GC3 for adoption and incorporation into the Phase I January 2021 report. The DRAFT Phase 1 Near-Term Actions Report of the GC3, *Taking Action on Climate Change and Building a More Resilient Connecticut for All* is posted to the GC3 website. The Phase 1 GC3 Near-Term Actions report focuses on urgent recommendations to begin to be implemented in 2021 or early 2022 and will be finalized for submission to the Governor by January 15, 2021.

The GC3 is accepting written public feedback on the draft Phase 1 GC3 report until 11:59pm on Wednesday, January 6, 2020. There are two ways to submit written feedback, using the survey, which provides a comment form with comment boxes after each recommendation, and by emailing comments to deep.climatechange@ct.gov as further described below under Public Comment. We strongly encourage stakeholders to provide comment through the survey feature. I also want to underscore that these recommendations are the first, urgent actions that the GC3 will be recommending to the Governor. Our work will continue in 2021 to review and refine additional recommendations and input from the Working Groups and members of the public.

Public Comment

Public Comment Survey. The GC3 prepared a 'survey' at this <u>link</u> that acts as a comment form. Each recommendation in the Phase 1 report is included in the survey. Below each recommendation is a comment box where you can write a response to that recommendation. Using this survey allows us to better and more efficiently track comments by recommendations. Please email <u>alec.shub@ct.gov</u> with any questions related to using the survey and see attached tutorial.

Emailed Comments. Although we strongly urge everyone to utilize the above survey for feedback on the recommendations, general written comments may also be emailed to deep.climatechange@ct.gov. In any emailed written comments, please refer to recommendation #'s and letters, as appropriate (e.g., On #17a, I think ...) and/or page numbers in the document to help us better incorporate your feedback. The survey above does not include the narrative sections of the report: Equity Core Concepts, Climate Impacts, and GC3 Process. Comments on those sections should be emailed to deep.climatechange@ct.gov and again please reference page numbers, if you are making specific comments about the text.

General information on the state's climate change objectives and programs is available on DEEP's website at: www.ct.gov/deep/climatechange. Inquiries may be directed to deep.climatechange@ct.gov.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact Joanne Driver at Joanne.Driver@ct.gov or call (860) 418-5910 if you need a communication aid or service; need information in another language; or if you wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint. Any person needing a hearing accommodation may call the State of CT relay number - 711. For the December 4 & 7 and tentative meeting on December 14, please submit your request by November 30, if possible.

Notice filed with the Secretary of State on December 24, 2020.